

## Earth's Materials and Changes

### 3-3 The student will demonstrate an understanding of Earth's composition and the changes that occur to the features of Earth's surface. (Earth Science)

#### 3-3.5 Illustrate Earth's saltwater and freshwater features (including oceans, seas, rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, and glaciers).

**Taxonomy level:** 2.2-A Understand Factual Knowledge

**Previous/Future knowledge:** The identification of specific water features found on Earth is new to this grade. In 1<sup>st</sup> grade (1-4.5), students illustrated the locations of water on Earth. In 4<sup>th</sup> grade (4-2.2), students will explain the characteristics of environments that include rivers and streams. In 5<sup>th</sup> grade (5-2.3), students will compare ecosystems that include oceans, lakes, and ponds.

**It is essential for students to** know that there are many places on Earth where water is found. Sometimes the water is saltwater and other times it is fresh water. Most of the water on Earth is saltwater. Water is mostly in liquid form in these features, but sometimes it can be solid (ice). Earth's water features include:

##### *Oceans*

- Oceans are large bodies of salt water that surrounds a continent.

##### *Seas*

- Seas are large bodies of salt water that is often connected to an ocean.
- A sea may be partly or completely surrounded by land.

##### *Rivers*

- Rivers are large, flowing bodies of fresh water that usually empty into a sea or ocean.

##### *Streams*

- Streams are small, flowing bodies of fresh water that flow into rivers.

##### *Lakes& ponds*

- Lakes and ponds are areas where water, usually freshwater, are surrounded by land.
- Lakes and ponds differ in size with ponds usually being smaller than lakes.

##### *Glaciers*

- Glaciers are huge sheets of ice that cover land.
- They are found where temperatures are very cold, for example, high in the mountains or near the poles of Earth.

**It is not essential for students to** name specific bodies of water.

#### **Assessment Guidelines:**

The objective of this indicator is to *illustrate* Earth's saltwater and freshwater features; therefore, the primary focus of assessment should be to give or use illustrations to show understanding of Earth's water features (including oceans, seas, rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, and glaciers).

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However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *identify* oceans on a world map; *compare* the size of oceans, lakes, and ponds; or *identify* where glaciers might be found.